

The Junior Ranger Way

Know before you go, respect parks and wildlife and leave no trace along your way, that's the Junior Ranger Way!

and rabbits), birds (including chickens), reptiles and invertebrates. They also scavenge the carcasses of larger animals such as wombats, wallabies and dogs. Being a good climber, the Spotted-tailed Quoll frequently hunts prey in tree hollows and in the canopy. Although generally nocturnal, they sometimes also hunt during the day.

A Spotted-tailed Quoll's Family Life

When in captivity, female quolls can breed at one year of age and most females breed every year. In the wild, female Spotted-tailed Quolls generally do not breed until two years of age, and some females breed only every second year.

Mating occurs during winter. After a gestation period of about three weeks, an average of five young quolls are born. By 18 weeks the young quolls are independent and they mature by one year.

Fascinating Facts:

Captain Cook collected quolls along the east coast in 1770 and recorded 'quoll' as an Aboriginal name for these animals.

Quolls share communal latrine (toilet) sites which are located in open spaces and may have up to 100 droppings piled up. The sites appear to be used for territory marking and may perform other social functions.

Threats

The Spotted-tailed Quoll, whilst not having many predators in the wild (although foxes and wild dogs may prey on young quolls) face other threats including land clearing and poisoning from baits used to control fox and wild

dog numbers. Due to these threats the Spotted-tailed Quoll is considered "Threatened" in Victoria.

The life-span of a Spotted-tailed Quoll in captivity averages 5-6 years, whilst in the wild their life-span decreases to 4-5 years.

Some Parks Where Spotted-tailed Quolls Can Be Found?

Great Otway National Park, Wabba Wilderness Park in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range, Mount Eccles National Park.

Want to Know More?

<http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/publications/tiger-quoll.html>

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/tiger-quoll.html>